



\* 290119

**Latimer, Becky**

**From:** Latimer, Becky  
**Sent:** Monday, February 3, 2020 9:49 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** 2019-290-WS

Dear David Hunt,

Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov).

- Docket No. 2019-290-WS - Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase Rates

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2019-290-WS - Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase Rates <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/117247>

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,  
Becky Latimer



Save as PDF file and Email form  
to: [contact@psc.sc.gov](mailto:contact@psc.sc.gov)

\* Required Fields

**Letter of Protest**  
**Docket No. 2019-290-WS**

Date: \* 2/1/2020

**Protestant Information:**

Name \* David Hunt  
Mailing Address \* \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State Zip \* Lake Wylie SC Phone \* \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**1. What is your connection or interest in this case? \* For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)**

I am a residential customer of Blue Granite Water Company for water and wastewater services.

**2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. \* (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)**

Blue Granite has a history of frequent rate hike requests, in spite of the fact that their rates are already quite high and their performance is poor. They have not properly planned and invested in keeping the infrastructure maintained even though they claim significant capital investment. In 2019, the Lake Wylie service area was under water restrictions for months due to insufficient infrastructure to deliver water demands of known growth, but we were not in a drought condition. I believe that a thorough audit of their infrastructure "investments" and their financial operations is warranted.

The established BGWC residential rate structure is based on flat monthly charges for water distribution and wastewater collection totalling \$79.46 regardless of whether any water is consumed.

**3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding, if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? \***

I will attend the hearing in York County on February 20, but I do not intend to testify.

Signature Required: \_\_\_\_\_

**Latimer, Becky**

**From:** Latimer, Becky  
**Sent:** Monday, February 3, 2020 9:46 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** 2019-290-WS

Dear Vanessa Torres,

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Sincerely,  
Becky Latimer





\* Required Fields

**Letter of Protest**  
**Docket No. 20190290WS**

Date: \* Feb 1, 2020

**Protestant Information:**

Name \*

Vanessa Torres

Mailing Address \*

City, State Zip \* Irmo, SC,

Phone \*

E-mail

**1. What is your connection or interest in this case? \* For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)**

We are customers of Blue Granite

**2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. \* (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)**

When we moved in 8 years ago, we were paying about \$22 for sewer, but we are alarmed that it has raised to \$65, which is a 200% increase! As if that were not exorbitant enough, now they are asking \$101 (a 500% increase!). This is completely unjustifiable, especially considering the reasons for the increase, including lawsuits for dumping waste and moving their office to Greenville. Why should the customer have to pay for their reckless behavior and costly decisions? Also, I understand the need to pay for infrastructure updates, but the company should have better managed their funds and little by little charged the customer instead of this huge increase. Many people here in Irmo are wondering if this company is about to go bankrupt and are trying to get as much from the customers possible. Moreover, many people in Irmo are on a fixed income and cannot afford these hikes, and as they move out of town, all of our property taxes will go down. This company is irresponsible and abusive, and we cannot allow

**3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding, if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? \***

I signed up at the last proceeding to speak but there was no time left.

Signature Required: Vanessa Torres



Latimer, Becky

**From:** Latimer, Becky  
**Sent:** Monday, February 3, 2020 9:44 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** 2019-290-WS

Dear Aarika Wakefield,

Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov).

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Sincerely,  
Becky Latimer





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to: [contact@psc.sc.gov](mailto:contact@psc.sc.gov)

\* Required Fields

Date: \* 01/31/2020

## Letter of Protest

Docket No. 2019-290-WS

### Protestant Information:

Name \* Aarika Wakefield

Mailing Address \*

City, State Zip \* Lake Wylie, SC

Phone \*

E-mail

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? \* For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

I have been a Blue Granite (Utilities, Inc.) customer since August 2006

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. \* (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

I understand costs for products and services increase and Blue Granite purchases their product/service from other municipalities. When cost to Blue Granite increases, they pass costs on to the consumer. They continually request rate increases even though the cost to them has not increased. Part of this increase is to pay for infrastructure improvements. For 14 years, I have been paying for improvements that have not occurred. In 2019, we had many water issues. Water main breaks (inevitable) lead to water being unavailable for a time. That lead to less water availability because improvements hadn't been made prior to this occurrence. In addition, they put all customers on water rationing from May to Oct. due to "drought conditions". No drought conditions existed after a month. Rather they had not prepared for the increase in consumption due to growth (infrastructure not improved). They rationed the consumer due to lack of preparation (but population growth was planned). Water quality has been poor and lack of communication has been a HUGE issue. Where's all the money gone?

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding, if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? \*

If necessary, but I don't know that I have much to offer beyond this statement. They are a poorly run company that has not invested their money into infrastructure development to prepare. They are reactive rather than proactive and they want to pass their mistakes on to the consumer.

Signature Required:

*Aarika Wakefield*